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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Bul	gari	1			REPOR	1		
SUBJECT	1.		"9 Septemvri" "Surp I Chuk"		•	DATE	DISTR.	26 October	1956
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		SOUR	CE EVALUATIONS A	ARE DE	FINITIVE. APPI	RAISAL OF	CONTEN	IS TENTATIVE	50X1-HUN

- 1. The "9 Septembri" Shoe Factory in Sofia was set up after 1944, about 2 kilometers wast of the Sofia radiway station of Serdika. The enterprise employed more than 2,500 workers until March 1955, when as a result of a general retrenchment, the staff decreased to approximately 1,900. The factory operates in two shifts.
- 2. The plant is equipped with older machinery from a number of small nationalized factories, and new German and Czech machines which it has received during the last three years. It has a total of nine conveyor belts, five of which, each 45 meters long, are for the manufacture of men's shoes. The other four are only partly utilized due to mechanical defects.
- 3. During 1955 the plant projected 8,000 pairs of shoes per day, but its plan quota for 1956 has been request to 4,800 pairs. The reduction is attributed to the public's reluctant to purchase the shoes because of their inferior quality, which has caused large surplus in warehouse stocks.
- 4. The plant manufactures graies "A", "B", and "C" shoes. The USSR buys approx: mately 60 per cent of the total output, including 75 per cent of the grade "A", and 15 per cent of the grade "B" production
- 5. The "Surp I Chuk" Shoe Factory near Gabrovo occupies the former military barracks, situated about 200 meters off the Gabrovo railrand line and approximately 1 kilometer north of the town. The majority of its 2,000 workers are engaged in the manufacture of shoes, while the others:

 are employed in the following departments:
 - a. Sewing of military packs 200;
 - b. Sawing of military tents 250; and
 - c. Manufacture of military boots 350.

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- 6. Nost of the plant's mechanical equipment is of Czech and German make; installations include five primitive Bulgarian-made conveyor belts, each 25 meters long, one of which is in use in the militury boots' department.
- 7. The plant's output totals 1,800 pairs of shoes per eight-hour shift; of these, the military department produces 600-650 pairs. The latter department works in one shift only, while most of the other sections of the enterprise operate in two shifts. (The figures constitute the full production potential of the plant.)

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